

## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

## INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Agricultural Conditions at Tremesek, Sternberk District	DATE DISTR.	30 November 1953
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
		REFERENCES	50X1-HUM

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United Agricultural Cooperative (JZD) at Tremesek, near Oskava Sternberk District

1. The United Agricultural Cooperative (JZD) at Tremesek, Sternberk District, which was founded in July 1952, is a Class I JZD and owns 150 hectares of land in all, about 50 hectares of which are arable; the remainder is chiefly pasture. Up to half of the farmers of Tremesek have joined it. Private farmers had their good land confiscated and in compensation were allotted land of inferior quality, sometimes very far away from their farms. However, they are still better off than those who became members of the JZD.
2. The JZD is required to grow a hitherto unknown oil crop on 50% of its land; rye, wheat and mangel (fodder beets) on 30% and flax on 20%. The oil plant is called Ovsik zlaty or Ovsik vyvyseny.
3. The JZD owns 100 cows, 70 calves and heifers, 300 pigs and some 2,000 fowl. Compulsory deliveries of beef are being fulfilled 100%; of pork, poultry and farm crops, only 50%.

New Soviet farming methods

4. New Soviet farming methods being practised by the JZD include check row sowing, which is the planting of potatoes four in one mound and 70 centimeters apart, and the acclimatization of calves to cold weather by splashing newly born calves with cold water and feeding them with cold milk. This experiment usually produces a high mortality among calves.
5. The JZD can purchase unlimited supplies of fertilizers at a 10% discount: the price of one hundredweight of potassium nitrate is 450 Kcs., of one hundredweight of nitrogen a little over 300 Kcs. The JZD does not buy fodder, except hay and straw in spring. It has enough seeds of its own for sowing.

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6. The JZD pays 80 Kcs. for ploughing one hectare of land. The member of the JZD receives one half of this sum at once and the other half at the end of the year if the cooperative makes a profit.
7. Injuries to JZD members are paid for by accident insurance. Most members who receive injuries are taken to hospitals.

Private farmers at Tremesek

8. One private farmer at Tremesek had 13 hectares of land, eight of which were arable. Each year he was required to sow two hectares of rye, one-and-one-half hectares of flax, one half hectare of wheat and 2.8 hectares of the above-mentioned oil crop. He bred nine cows, including five milk cows, two calves and two heifers, as well as one sow and six pigs. Each year he had to deliver the following: six hundredweight of beef, four or five hundredweight of pork, 2,800 eggs, 18 kg. of poultry or pork and 6,000 liters of milk.
9. A private farmer could buy only such amounts of fertilizers as were approved by the Local National Committee according to acreage. This farmer used to buy only five hundredweight of fertilizers, of which three hundredweight were potassium nitrate at 530 Kcs. per hundredweight and two hundredweight of nitrogen at 380 Kcs. per hundredweight. He could have bought more but did not have enough money.
10. Buildings are in disrepair, but the farmers do not repair them as they are short of money and cannot get the necessary materials. A private farmer cannot get cement at all and roofing tiles are too expensive and hard to obtain. Sand can be obtained from the local sand quarry.
11. The living standard of private farmers is very poor. Farmers no longer try to help each other. Instead, they keep completely to themselves.
12. Tuberculosis is increasing rapidly among farmers. A private farmer in the hospital has to be supported by his own family.
13. Old farmers who are unable to work but are JZD members receive 600 Kcs. per month. Private farmers are not entitled to any pension. In general, the insurance policies of private farmers have lapsed because they are unable to pay the premiums.
14. Farmers are not allowed to hire laborers, but if a member of the farmer's family works in a factory his release can be obtained to allow him to work on the farm.

State Agricultural Machinery Pool

15. All agricultural machines at Tremesek were taken away from the farmers and stored in the State Agricultural Machinery Pool. Machines included were: threshing machines, 32 motors from six h.p. up, binders and reapers. Private farmers are not allowed to borrow any of these machines. The nearest State Agricultural Machinery Pool is at Horni Libine. It has some 50 tractors, three combines, many binders and other sorts of machines.

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